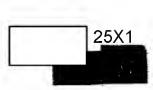
GENERAL

1. USSR would gain from early Japanese treaty—US Embassy Moscow expresses the view that an early conclusion of a peace treaty with Japan would be less advantageous to the West than to the USSR. Assuming that such a treaty would provide for the withdrawal of allied occupation troops, the Embassy doubts whether the Japanese, faced with the psychological pressure of strong Soviet forces in the neighboring Far East, could resist Communist infiltration, propaganda, and revolution, The Embassy points out that communization of Japan would enable the USSR to control the strategic Japanese islands and extent Soviet power in the western Pacific, possibly as far as the East Indies and Singapore, thus jeopardizing the nations of Southeast Asia.

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